

Inside Wallops

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

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Wallops Supporting CRISTA-SPAS



The Cryogenic Infrared Spectrometers and Telescopes for the Atmosphere-Shuttle Pallet Satellite-2 (CRISTA-SPAS-2) payload for the STS-85 mission undergoes final preparation in the Multi-Payload Processing Facility prior to installation in a payload canister for its trip to Launch Pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center.

The Space Shuttle Discovery is scheduled for launch August 7. Wallops will be conducting launch activities at Wallops and the White Sands Missile Range in support of CRISTA-SPAS.

In conjunction with the Shuttle mission, 33 meteorological, 33 balloons, and a Terrier-Orion sounding rocket will be flown from Wallops and two meteorological rockets and a Black Brant V sounding rocket will be flown from White Sands.

Virginia Space Flight Center News

.....The Accomack County Wetlands Board approved the Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority's construction plans and application for permits to construct Launch Pad 0-B on Wallops Island.

.....Pad 0-B design is complete. Selection of construction contractors will take place in August and groundbreaking is expected in September or October.

.....A Spaceport operator's license application was submitted to the FAA July 1 and is in final review. The VSFC expects the license to be issued by September 1.

New Network to Revolutionize Aircraft Design

A NASA computer network tool promises great savings in time and money for airplane makers and the government by providing faster access to information to help shorten the aircraft design and test process by about 25 percent.

Called "Darwin," the network will revolutionize the way airplanes are developed by using wind tunnels linked with computers that send nearly instant test results via a network to geographically separated companies and laboratories.

"With Darwin, we're helping reduce the aerospace design cycle time by around a quarter, and we're providing information access to cut the number of independent design cycles," said David Korsmeyer, deputy project at the NASA Ames Research Center. "Our purpose is to get results and data out of NASA wind tunnels faster. Previously, such knowledge had to be derived by scientists and engineers in the days and months following wind tunnel tests," he said.

The key to Darwin's success is its ability to funnel wind tunnel data into a server computer, and then send knowledge back to researchers in "near real time" — within about 30 seconds to five minutes. Darwin is similar to the Internet, but Darwin is not open to the public. The system is able to link NASA, aerospace industry and academic centers that may be located thousands of miles from one another. A computer program that many people use to browse the Internet from their home computers is used in the Darwin system.

"Before we began to use large computer networks to deliver data, wind tunnel systems were very good at capturing data for later analysis, but they were not good at 'serving' the data," said Korsmeyer. "Now, Darwin collects data, and it is translated into a useable form. Darwin also can provide access to data for researchers where they want it. The system can distribute data to many places at once, and it is secure," he added.

Wallops News Shorts.....

P-3 Completes Successful Mission

The Wallops P-3 recently completed a successful soil moisture remote sensing campaign in Oklahoma. During the mission, from June 17 through July 18, the P-3 crew conducted 25 flights totaling 100 flight hours. The mission was conducted for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Goddard Space Flight Center - Greenbelt, NASA Headquarters, and the Langley Research Center.

Congratulations to the P-3 crew on a very successful mission.

Two Balloons Fly in July

A scientific balloon in Palestine, TX, and another in Lynn Lake, Canada, were successfully flown July 25 and 28, respectively.

A high energy astrophysics payload for Dr. Elena Aprile from Columbia University was flown from Palestine. Dr. Jonathan Ormes (Code 660) flew a cosmic and heliospheric physics payload at Lynn Lake. Both payloads were carried aloft by 29.47 million cubic foot balloons and the payloads were recovered

Summertime Athletics Can Take a Toll

by Dianne Hargrove, R.N.

After a day shut in the office, summer sports enthusiasts will take to the playing fields, bike paths, and waterways. Many after-five and weekend jocks will find that being ill prepared for physical activity can cause painful injuries.

Too much exercise in too little time can cause injury to muscles, tendons and ligaments. Ideally, adults should accumulate 30 minutes or more of moderate intensity physical activity almost every day.

Combining proper equipment with good judgement, will help part-time athletes minimize the risk of sustaining full-time injuries. Prevention is still the best medicine.

Heads up for helmets

For biking, skateboarding, roller-blading or horseback riding, a helmet is your most important piece of safety equipment. When buying a helmet, look at the construction as well as size and fit. Be sure to wear it correctly positioned and firmly secured.

Body protection

A leather, synthetic or cloth glove can provide effective protection against calluses and blisters. Mouth protectors are most commonly used in contact sports, but also should be used if participating in handball, skateboarding, volleyball or skydiving.

Agony of de-feet

In every athletic shoe look for support in the heel, collar, arch and base of the foot. Court games such as tennis and basketball call for a shoe that is quite different from those needed for distance running.

Keep an eye on safety

Whatever the sport, eye protection can improve performance and provide critical protection. Eye protection is a must when playing racquet games. When fishing and boating, many types of eyewear, especially polarized lenses, do an excellent job of screening out harmful rays and reducing glare.

Women's Equality Day Luncheon

The NASA and ACSC Federal Women's Program Committee is sponsoring a Women's Equality Day Luncheon on August 25 at 11:30 a.m. in the Williamsburg Room of the NASA cafeteria.

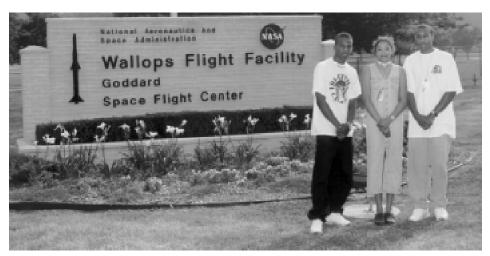
For further information or to make reservations call Linda Thompson, x1072, or Sandy Bowden, x1060.

Summer Students

Students from area high schools participated in summer employment at Wallops. The Space Club Scholars is a six week program, and the Summer High School Apprentice Research Program (SHARP) is an eight week program.



Space Club Scholars (left to right): Justin Karl, Michael Cropper, Richard Hooks, Elizabeth McNamara, and Seth Purcell.



SHARP Students (left to right): Matthis Needam, Savitri Richardson, and Harvey Davis, Jr. Photos by Ralph Wooten.



WEMA is sponsoring a Tailgate Yard Sale, August 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Employees are invited to sell "yardsale" type items from tailgates or trunks of vehicles. Free spaces will be reserved in the parking lot in front of the "E" buildings.

This event is for Wallops employees only and will not be open to the general public. Be advised that leave regulations apply if your participation extends beyond the normal lunch break.

For further information or to reserve a spot, call Vorie Thomas, x1394.

Inside Wallops On-line

The latest edition of *Inside Wallops* is now available on the Wallops homepage. A Table of Contents lists previous editions which may be viewed, as well. The homepage address is: *http://www.wff.nasa.gov*

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